

To the members of the California State Senate:

I am signing Senate Bill 635.

Santa Barbara County, like all counties in California, had the opportunity to secure emergency medical services funding between 1987 and 1991; however, Santa Barbara chose, instead, to use the authority to direct funding to court construction costs, rather than to emergency medical services. Now that the county is in jeopardy of losing their last trauma center, they have proposed increased assessments on criminal fines and penalties to provide partial funding and prevent complete closure.

I am signing SB 635 because ensuring the residents of Santa Barbara County continue to have emergency services available is vital. The bill contains a two year sunset and requires a report back to the Legislature containing what local solutions will be sought during this time to provide a stable funding source for the community's trauma services.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger